

2013 Needs Assessment for Calhoun County

Honorable Brenda Stedham
Calhoun County Courthouse
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Rudy Abbott	Lyndsey Gillam	Sen. Del Marsh	Curtis Simpson
Dr. Matt Akin	David Gilmore	Kimberly McNally	Jennifer Sims
Larry Amerson	Aleta Glass	Brian McVeigh	Marivia Smith
Jennifer Argo	Jane Glass	Beth Meehan	Robyn Snider
Julie Bailey	Tommy Goggins	Peggy Miller	Curtis Spoon
Owen Baker	Dr. Jeff Goodwin	Chargina Moore	Amy Stone
Roy Bennett	Wayne Harper	Fred Morrow	Eula Tatman
Rep. Dr. Barbara Boyd	Cyndi Henderson	Jonathan Mosley	Steven Tidwell
K. L. Brown	J. D Hess	Kelly Mumper	Kay Tolbert
Denise Bryant	Rep. Steve Hurst	Leigh Ann Murdock	Rose Tolliver-Munford
Marsha Busby	Joe Jankowski	Joe Nabors	Rebecca VanMarter
Johnny Byrd	Liletta Jenkins	Dr. Sid Nichols	Cheryl Wade
Sheila Chatman-Ball	Shannon Jenkins	Jocelyn Palmore-Haynes	David Wade
Lora Chatmon	Linda Johns	Denise Parker	Kathleen Waelti
Becky Cox	Bonnie Johnson	Karen Phillips	Susan Waldron
Jonathan Davis	Teresa Johnson	Judge Laura Phillips	Donald Walton
Marquita Davis	Dr. Marlon Jones	Kelly Price	David West
Betty Deason	Phillip Keith	Randy Reaves	Kim Westbrook
Joe Estep	Sharlene Key	Charity Richey-Bentley	Linda White
Jerry Fielding	Carol Kirk	Sabrina Robinson	Cindy Williams
Cathy Fockele	Mary Klinefelter	Stacie Rolfe	Dia Williams
Sandy Fortner	Shannon LaBudde	Tim Rolfe	Melissa Willingham
Joan Frazier	Linda Lambert	Mike Rollins	Rep. Randy Wood
Lindsey Frey	Sarah Latham	Donna Satterlee-Ross	
John Garlick	Kelly Latta	Valerie Shannon	
Nina Gilbert	Mandy Lee	Susan Shipman	

Accomplishments

- Workshops at schools and other community venues on suicide prevent for community and health care professionals
- Awareness campaigns targeted at parents about early screening benefits and flyers with resource information
- Calhoun County schools implemented a "Safe Schools Task Force" with the Sheriff's department to assist in informing parents about resources within the community to help with at-risk children
- Success by Six coalition provided training to local child care providers addressing quality safe early learning environments
- Calhoun County schools had six elementary schools apply for Pre-K grants for possible funding for 2013-2014 school year; 3 other school systems within the county also applied for Pre-K

funding

- Calhoun County schools implemented the PASS (Positive Approach to Student Success) Program during the 2012-13 school year in an effort to decrease drop-out rates
- 2700 children received free books at their home each month through Dolly Parton's Imagination Library to promote the importance of early childhood literacy and enhance school readiness
- Success by Six initiative distributed 2000 free school readiness calendars targeted at parents of 4 year olds to ensure children are fully prepared to begin kindergarten
- As part of ongoing "Child Care Awareness" Campaign, established a website with information on licensed vs. unlicensed stages, and local community resources www.successby6kids.org
- Through a partnership with Alabama Partnership for Children and a grant from the Community Foundation of NE AL, committee members assembled and distributed "New Mother Kits" to local Ob/Gyn offices for expectant moms

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First Priority

Need related to children of this county

Families/children need to be emotionally and physically healthy and not in crisis as evidenced by lowering the suicide rate of youths to < 7.3 per 100,000, raising awareness about early intervention, and screening more children for developmental delays.

Existing resources available to help meet this need include:	Resources needed but unavailable to meet this need include:
Mental Health Center Head Start Private Practice Counselors Public school Pre-K programs Ministers with Pastoral Counseling Degrees School Counselors Primary Care Physicians National suicide prevention and talk hotlines Information on the internet Television United Way Success By 6 Family Links East Central Alabama United Cerebral Palsy Center, Inc. Children's Rehabilitation Local hospitals (RMC, Stringfellow)	Debriefing Team to help in event of a suicide Trained and certified individuals to be able to debrief Visible yard signs and posters with hotline numbers in places frequented by teens Improve cooperation from child care providers and pediatricians in giving the ASQ-3

Action steps that will result in progress toward meeting the identified need:

1. Continued awareness promotion that suicide is a preventable public health problem through education of families, school personnel, health care providers.
Training support teams to provide debriefing if there is an event. Provide a go-to team for support for a suicidal teen in need. Explore collaboration with existing emergency response/crisis intervention teams.
2. Continue to explore financial support of these efforts at the local level.
3. Link with existing early intervention programs to further disseminate information among county residents. Support funding efforts (support letters, membership networking, etc.) to raise awareness and increase development of resources.
4. Make screenings available at fun days, summer camps and other kid friendly events.

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Second Priority

Need related to children of this county

Children need to be safe as evidenced by increasing awareness about quality early learning environments and the difference between licensed and unlicensed child care providers, and providing protection from sexual predators.

Existing resources available to help meet this need include:	Resources needed but unavailable to meet this need include:
Alabama Partnership marketing campaign VOICES campaign for mandatory licensing of all daycare Law Enforcement DHR Children's Advocacy Center Family Links First Responders Mandatory background checks for all community providers such as child care providers and teachers Success by 6 Local schools	Donated advertising: TV, radio, print, billboard advertising Grant money for paid advertising Training for ministers and the religious community Expand Good Touch/Bad Touch Program in more grades Additional methods to provide information to children about protecting themselves and reporting abuse

Action steps that will result in progress toward meeting the identified need:

1. Contact local media outlets for donated TV and radio PSAs, print ads. Ask local outlets to package in-kind advertising with a featured story or series of stories on the topic.
2. Target events where parent of young children often attend (Terrific Kids Tuesday at Quintard Mall, Anniston Museum, movie theater).
3. Provide training through ministerial association.
4. Local law enforcement to increase patrols around school bus stops.

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Third Priority

Need related to children of this county

Parents need to be equipped with the knowledge to understand and meet the needs of their children as evidenced by the increased involvement in their child/children's education.

Existing resources available to help meet this need include:	Resources needed but unavailable to meet this need include:
HIPPY Program Parents As Teachers Program Parent Specialists Preschool Friends Parent Project classes Early Warning Program for truancy Parent docket through Juvenile Court 1000 parenting kits provided through Northeast AL Community Foundation Innovative non-traditional school programs (i.e., PASS program, SAFE school, etc.)	Community wide HIPPY enrollment More slots for Parents as Teachers or other early learning programs Community wide Parent Project workshops Holding parents accountable for excessive tardies Public Awareness Campaign

Action steps that will result in progress toward meeting the identified need:

1. Apply for additional funding for Parents as Teachers through NE AL. Community foundation
2. Apply for additional funding for HIPPY Program to serve additional families.
3. Educate the community about what is available through PSA's, pediatricians' offices, etc. and contract with a Parent Project Facilitator to hold workshops for parents or providers.
4. Lobby for change in truancy law to hold parents accountable for excessive tardies.